

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O R 111730Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2146

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2483

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY TU ZHCF

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH DENKTASH

1. SUMMARY. DENKTASH CONFIRMS THAT GOT HAS ENCOURAGED HIM DO SOME EXPLORING ON HIS OWN BUT WITHIN GUIDELINES. HE IS WARY OF A WEAK TURKISH GOVERNMENT SAWING OFF THE LIMB IF HE GOES VERY FAR. WILL SEEK EXPLICIT GOT SUPPORT BEFORE PUTTING NEW POSITIONS IN NEXT, NEW YORK, NEGOTIATING SESSIONS. REGRETS RESIGNATION OF SYG SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WECKMANN WHO HE FEELS HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION. DENKTASH OPPOSES EC-9 CYPRUS INITIATIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. I SAW TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH AUGUST 11 FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM VIENNA III AND CONSULTATION IN ANKARA.

3. NOTING PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS IN VIENNA HAD REPORTEDLY BEEN FLEXIBLE AND PRODUCTIVE, AND THAT DENKTASH HAD COMMITTED HIMSELF TO DISCUSS ALL ISSUES INCLUDING GEOGRX HI DURING NEXT SESSION IFSNEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER, I ASKED HOW THIS WELCOME POSITION ON HIS PART SQUARED WITH CONTINUING EMANATIONS FROM ANKARA THAT GOT IS NOT PREPARED TO MOVE ON CYPRUS AT
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THIS TIME. CYPRUS NEGOTIATION CONTINUED TO BE AFFECTED BY

WEAKNESS OF DEMIREL GOVERNMENT, WITNESS ERBAKAN'S RECENT STATEMENTS FLATLY OPPRESSING ANY CONCESSIONS. COULD IT BE THAT GOT WILLING GIVE DENKTASH SOME LEEWAY, WITHOUT AT THIS STAGE COMMITTING ITSELF, IN HOPES THAT HE COULD WORK OUT A REASONABLE PACKAGE WHICH COULD BE LABELLED "MADE IN CYPRUS" AND SUBSEQUENTLY ENDORSED BY GOT?

4. DENKTASH REPLIED THAT ANKARA HADMFENDEED ENCOURAGED HIM TO DO SOME EXPLORING ON HIS OWN BUT BEARING IN MIND GOT'S GENERAL GUIDELI . DENKTASH SAID HE HAD TRIED THIS OUT IN VIENNA BUT IT PUT HIM IN A DANGEROUS POSITION. IF ANKARA WAS PLEASED WITH WHAT HE OBTAINED AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN TURKEY ENABLED GOT TO GIVE SUPPORT, WELL AND GOOD. BUT IT WAS EQUALLY LIKELY THAT HE WOULD BE LEFT OUT ON A LIMB AND THAT SOMEONE

TURKEY WOULD ACCUSE HIM OF NEGOTIATING AWAY WHAT HAD BEEN WON WITH TURKISH BLOOD. HELZOULD NOT PLAY THIS GAME. THEREFORE, HE INTZGJED TO INSIST BEFORE NEW YORK THAT THE GOT PROMISE TO SUPPORT WHAT HE MIGHT DISCUSS WITH CLERIDES. HE THOUGHT CHANCES OF EXTRACTING SUCH A PROMISE WERE NOT GOOD GIVEN WEAKNESS OF DEMIREL GOVERNMENT. UNLESS HE RECEIVED BACKING, NEW YORK WOULD BE ONLY A CONTINUED EXCHANGE OF "NICE WORDS".

5. I TOLD DENKTASH I THOUGHT IT HIGHLY UNFORTUNATE THAT STINGING PRESS ATTACKS BY GREEK CYPRIOTS HAD LED SYG SPECIAL REP WECKMANN TO CONCLUDE THAT GOC HAD WITHDRAWN CONTIDENCE AND COMPELLED HIM TO RESIGN. TO MY SURPRISE, DENKTASH SAID THIS WAS THE FIRST HE HAD HEARD. HE WAS NOT, HOWEVER, SURPRISED, HAVING HIMSELF LINKED THE ORCHESTRATED PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST WECKMANN WITH HIS HASTY VISIT TO PRESIDENT ECHAVARRIA IN ISRAEL. DENKTASH PRAISED WECKMANN AND AGREED THAT THERE MIGHT WELL BE A SETBACK TO NEGOTIATION CAUSED BY THE MONTHS NEEDED FOR A SUCCESSOR TOPDEAD HIMSELF THOROUGHLY INTO THE PROBLEM.

6. I ASKED DENKTASH FOR HIS VIEW OF CYPRUS INITIATIVE OF EC-9. HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS VERY MUCH OPPOSED TO IT, GIVEN NEGOTIATION ALREADY IN PROGRESS. HE HAD SO INFORMED WALDHEIM IN VIENNA AND WALDHEIM TOOK A SIMILAR VIEW.
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7. I TOLD DENKTASH THAT ONE SUBJECT I WAS NOT RAISING ON THE DAY'S AGENDA WAS RECENT TFSC ACTION RE US COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN NORTHERN ZONE. CLOSING STATIONS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN CLOSED A YEAR AGO SEEMED TO ME A RATHER HOLLOW GESTURE. BEFORE TFSC ACTION, ANY PROBLEMS WITH REGARD TO STATIONS COULD HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED INFORMALLY AND PROFITABLY..WHILE I DID NOT EXCLUDE SOME INFORMAL DISCUSSION AT A LATER DATE, TFSC

BY ITS ACTION HAD PAINTED ITSELF INTO A CORNER, FORCING MY GOVERNMENT TO REITERATE ITS POLICY HOLDING TURKEY FORMALLY ACCOUNTABLE. DENKTASH SHRUGGED AS IF TO DISMISS TFSC ACTION AND INDEED PROFESSED TO BE UNAWARE THAT EMBASSY HAD JUST BEEN FORMALLY NOTIFIED OF CLOSURE BY A SUBORDINATE OFFICIAL IN TFSC MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (SEPTTEL).

8. DENKTASH TOLD ME THAT HE HAD TODAY ANNOUNCED FORMATION OF A NEW "NATIONAL MOVEMENT", A BROAD-SPECTRUM PARTY DESIGNED BRING TOGETHER ALL HIS SUPPORTERS. HE DID NOT FEEL HIS POSITION AS TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER WAS IN ANY WAY IN DANGER BUT CALCULATED THAT, IN ANTICIPATION OF NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, HE NEEDED AN ORGANIZATION TO REPRESENT HIS INTERESTS AND COMBAT TWO SMALL PARTIES WHICH HAD RECENTLY COME INTO EXISTENCE WITH MILDLY OMINOUS COMMUNIST OBJECTIVES AND LEADERSHIP.
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